

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 RSC-01

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TAGS: UN PFOR AL

SUBJ: OPENING SPEECH OF GA PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA, SEP 17

SUMMARY: UNGA PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA'S OPENING SPEECH WAS
HARD-HITTING LOOK AT WORLD'S PROBLEMS WHICH INDICATED
VIGOROUS PURSUIT OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT INITIATIVES.
BOUTEFLIKA STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC ISSUES AND
MENTIONED MIDDLE EAST, SE ASIA, CYPRUS AS SPECIAL PROBLEM
AREAS. HE PRAISED INDEPENDENCE OF GUINEA-BISSAU, AND GAVE
PORTUGAL GOOD MARKS FOR DECOLONIZATION EFFORT.END SUMMARY

1. MAJOR THEME OF GA PRESIDENT BOUTEFLIKA'S OPENING SPEECH
TO 29TH UNGA WAS IMPORTANCE OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AS
INFLUENTIAL GUARANTOR OF WORLD PEACE LARGELY THROUGH ITS
ACTIONS IN UN. ALGERIAN SPOKE OF WEAKNESS IN SYSTEM OF WORLD

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ORDER BASED ON GOOD WILL AMONG MOST POWERFUL NATIONS,
SAYING NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WHILE NOT SEEKING TO RIVAL GREAT

POWERS, CAN PLAY USEFUL MIDDLE ROLE. NON-ALIGNEDS INTRODUCE FACTORS OF JUSTICE AND HUMANITY INTO INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, REGARDING UN AS NATURAL FORUM FOR EXPRESSING THEIR CONCERNS. FOR EXAMPLE, NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT HAS MADE USEFUL SUGGESTIONS ON CYPRUS PROBLEM.

2. BOUTEFLLIKA ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF UN, BUT SEES ORGANIZATION IN PROCESS OF REFORMING SELF. UN, HE ALLEGED, IS IN CRITICAL PHASE FOR DETERMINING ITS FUTURE EXISTANCE. ORGANIZATION MUST DEMOCRATIZE STRUCTURES IN ORDER TO OPEN BETTER PROSPECTIVES.

3. LAYING EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC ISSUES AT 29TH GA, PRESIDENT DEPLORED GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES, SAYING A TRUE ECONOMIC DIALOGUE MUST BE ESTABLISHED AT THIS SESSION AND PROJECTED EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY.

4. HIGHLIGHTING CONCEPT OF UNIVERSALITY IN UN, BOUTEFLLIKA PRAISED CHINESE PARTICIPATION, BUT REGRETTED THAT OTHER "UNJUSTLY DIVIDED" COUNTRIES (UNSPECIFIED) STILL REMAIN OUTSIDE UN.

5. BOUTEFLLIKA SALUTED ACCESSION TO INDEPENDENCE OF GUINEA-BISSAU, AND "PROGRESS ON THE ROAD OF LIBERATION BY OTHER PORTUGUESE COLONIES." HE FURTHER "HAPPILY NOTED", PORTUGAL'S "RECONCILIATION WITH THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY."

6. ON SOUTH EAST ASIA, ALGERIAN NOTED "IMPERIALIST AGGRESSIONS" HAVE BECOME UNCERTAIN BECAUSE OF "JURIDICAL CAMOUFLAGES" CONNECTED WITH PARIS ACCORDS, BUT HE PREDICTED VICTORY OF THE "INDO-CHINESE PEOPLES".

7. UNGA PRESIDENT SAID MIDDLE EAST NOW ENGAGES ALL OF EUROPE, ESPECIALLY AS MEDITERRANEAN BECOMES PAWN OF GREAT POWER COMPETITION HE ALSO TALKED IN GENERAL OF NEED TO RESTORE CONQUERED TERRITORIES, AND STRESSED THAT PALESTINIANS MUST HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO FREELY EXERCISE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

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8. DEPLORING LOSS OF LIFE ON CYPRUS, AS "TRAGIC TRIBUTE" OF CYPRIOT PEOPLE FOR SAFE-GUARDING OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE BOUTEFLLIKA OFFERED NO SOLUTIONS FOR CRISIS. HE DID, HOWEVER, CALL FOR REMOVAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS (INCLUDING BRITISH) FROM ISLAND SO CYPRUS COULD FULFILL ALL CRITERIA OF NON-ALIGNMENT.

9. CONCERNING EAST-WEST RELATIONS, ALGERIAN PRAISED DIMINUTION OF TENSIONS AS CONDUCIVE TO DIALOGUE, AND IN THIS CONTEXT NOTED SALT, MBFR, AND EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE

(CSCE).

10. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT, BOUTEFLIKA ATTEMPTED STRIKE EXTREMELY FRANK BUT STATESMANLIKE POSE, SUITABLY LEAVENED WITH BLUNT, HARD HITTING REVIEW OF WORLD'S PROBLEMS, IN EFFORT TO RECONFIRM HIS REVOLUTIONARY CREDENTIALS. NEW PRESIDENT AVOIDED CONTENTIOUS STATEMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, BUT LEFT NO DOUBT HE WILL VIGOROUSLY PURSUE VARIOUS NON-ALIGNED INITIATIVES DURING CURRENT UNGA.
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